

News from the FPPC



California Fair Political Practices Commission
428 J Street, Suite 620, Sacramento, CA 95814
www.fppc.ca.gov

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Contact: Tara Stock at (916) 322-7761

FPPC Enforcement Decisions: September 17, 2010

The following are enforcement decisions approved by the Fair Political Practices Commission at its regular monthly meeting held in Sacramento on Friday, September 17, 2010. Decisions are listed by category and include a brief summary of each case and the total amount of any administrative fine or fines in each case.

Additional information on each of the enforcement cases below can be found in the September agenda on the FPPC website at www.fppc.ca.gov. FPPC agendas are distributed and posted on the agency website 10 days prior to each monthly meeting.

The web version of the agenda includes links to the stipulations agreed to by the commission and by the individuals and organizations subject to the fines, or the default decisions proposed to the commission. Exhibits in support of the stipulations and proposed default decisions are also available on the website. If you are unable to access the FPPC website, or need further assistance, please call the FPPC communications office at (916) 322-7761.

Campaign Reporting Violations

Concerned Citizens for a Better West Covina and Dana Sykes, the committee's treasurer, failed to properly identify the committee as a primarily formed committee for Measure D on mass mailings, and failed to file a late independent expenditure report by the October 29, 2009, deadline for an expenditure made of \$2,285.81 on October 28, 2009. \$6,000 fine.

Saundra Davis and Committee to Elect Saundra Davis, a candidate for the Culver City Unified School District Governing Board in a November 8, 2005 election, and her controlled committee failed to file a semi-annual statement. \$2,000 fine.

Contra Costa County Committee on Political Education, AFL-CIO and Pamela Aguilar, the committee's treasurer, failed to file six semi-annual campaign statements. \$2,400 fine.

Kathleen Wisnicki, Vote Wisnicki, and Colleen Baum. Kathleen Wisnicki, a candidate for Malibu City Council in 2008, her controlled committee, and the committee's treasurer, failed to timely file three semi-annual campaign statements for the periods ending June 30, 2008, December 31, 2008, and June 30, 2009. \$1,200 fine.

Xilonin Cruz-Gonzalez, a board member for the Azusa Unified School District, failed to timely file a semi-annual campaign statement for the reporting period of January 1, 2008, through June 30, 2008. \$400 fine.

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Holly Mitchell, Committee to Elect Holly Mitchell, and Linda McKnight. Holly Mitchell, a candidate for superior court judge, her controlled committee, and the committee's treasurer, failed to timely file a semi-annual campaign statement for the period July 1, 2008, through December 31, 2008. \$200 fine.

Major Donor Violation

A major donor is a person or entity who makes contributions totaling \$10,000 or more in a calendar year and is required to file campaign reports detailing how much was contributed and to whom. The following failed to file major donor reports as required by law:

Scott Douglas, who qualified as a major donor committee in the first half of 2009, failed to timely disclose three contributions, totaling \$37,200. \$800 fine.

Ralph Iannelli qualified as a major donor committee but failed to timely file a semi-annual campaign statement disclosing contributions totaling \$15,900 in 2009. \$400 fine.

Statements of Economic Interests Violations

California law requires elected officials, certain board members and governmental employees, and consultants employed by governmental entities to complete and file Statements of Economic Interests (SEIs or Form 700s). SEIs serve a dual purpose: they make a filer aware of personal economic interests relative to a governmental decision, and they are an important disclosure document for the public and media.

The following individuals failed to file their Statement of Economic Interests forms on time:

James Corsaut, Councilmember for the City of Isleton and a former board member of the Sacramento Area Council of Governments/Capitol Valley SAFE, failed to file a 2007 and 2008 annual Statement of Economic Interests for his Isleton city council position by the April 1, 2008, and April 1, 2009, deadline, respectively, and failed to timely file a leaving office Statement of Economic Interests for his SACOG/SAFE position. \$6,000 fine.

Armida Torres, Commissioner of the Chula Vista Growth Management Oversight Commission, failed to file an assuming office Statement of Economic Interests, which was due by May 21, 2009, and failed to file a 2009 annual Statement of Economic Interests, which was due by April 1, 2010. \$4,000 fine.

Patrick Gleason, Governing Board Member for the Gazelle Elementary School District, failed to file a 2008 annual Statement of Economic Interests, which was due by April 1, 2009. \$500 fine.

Robert Brewer, a board member of the California Acupuncture Board, failed to file a 2008 annual Statement of Economic Interests, which was due by April 1, 2009. \$200 fine.

The following individuals failed to include all economic interests that were required to be disclosed in a Statement of Economic Interests:

James Kaminsky, Captain, Newport Beach Police Department, failed to report gifts of hotel accommodations, Chicago Cubs tickets, and dinner at the Ritz Restaurant on his assuming office, 2007 and 2008 annual Statements of Economic Interests. He also accepted gifts from a single source in 2007, which exceeded the annual gift limit of \$390. \$1,000 fine.

Ronald Ikejiri, Gardena City Councilman, failed to timely disclose a personal loan as a source of income on his 2007 and 2008 annual Statements of Economic Interests. \$400 fine.